

Message Text

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ACTION SS-30

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C O N F I D E N T I A L USUN 5231

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: XGDS-1

TAGS: PFOR UN XF

SUBJ: ME: NOV 29 MEETING AT KM 101

1. ASYG URQUHART HAS GIVEN AMB SCHAUFLE GIST OF
GENERAL SIILASVUO'S REPORT OF NOV 29 EGYPTIAN-ISRAELI
MEETING AT KM 101.

2. MEETING OF ONE HOUR WAS DISAPPOINTING. WAS PRECEDED
BY NEARBY 25-MINUTE EXCHANGE OF FIRE BETWEEN EGYPTIAN AND
ISRAELI FORCES. YARIV COMPLAINED ABOUT SHOOTING AT THE
ISRAELIS FROM THIRD ARMY AREA. GAMASY GAVE ASSURANCES
THAT IF EGYPTIAN TROOPS WERE RESPONSIBLE FOR ANY CEASE-
FIRE VIOLATIONS, THEY WOULD BE PUNISHED.

3. YARIV THEN OPENED DISCUSSIONS COMPLAINING ABOUT SADAT
SPEECH IN ALGIERS WHICH ATTACKED ISRAELIS FOR EVASION AND
DECEPTION. ALSO MENTIONED SADAT STATEMENT THAT EGYPT
WAS ON THE EAST BANK TO STAY WHICH IMPLIED TO ISRAELIS
GREATER EGYPTIAN PRESENCE THAN DESIRABLE. YARIV THEN SSAID
THAT HE HAD NO FURTHER PROPOSALS TO MAKE AND RESTATED THE
INITIAL ISRAELI POSITION, I.E. THAT BOTH SIDES EVACUATE ALL
TERRITORY GAINED DURING THE FIGHTING WHICH WOULD THEN BE
OCCUPIED BY UNEF. YARIV SAID THAT HE KNEW THIS WAS
UNACCEPTABLE TO THE EGYPTIANS BUT HE HAD NO FURTHER
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AUTHORITY.

4. SIILASVUO THEN NOTED THAT MANY UNOFFICIAL IDEAS AND
PROPOSALS HAD BEEN DISCUSSED IN PREVIOUS MEETINGS. FOR EXAMPLE, AT

END OF LAST MEETING YARIV SAID HE EXPECTED TO BE ABLE TO PROPOSE NEW ISRAELI PLAN IN THE LIGHT OF EGYPTIAN AGREEMENT SERIOUSLY TO CONSIDER THINNING OUT EGYPTIANS FORCES ON EAST BANK.

5. YARIV ACKNOWLEDGED TRUTH OF SIILASVUO STATEMENT BUT REITERATED THAT HE HAD NO AUTHORITY TO GO BEYOND EARLIER ISRAELI PROPOSAL. HE REGRETTED THIS FACT, APOLOGIZED AND SUGGESTED THAT IT COULD BE DISCUSSED FIRST POINT ON AGENDA AT GENEVA PEACE CONFERENCE.

6. SIILASVUO THEN POINTED OUT THAT THEY HAD BEEN DISCUSSING POINT B OF EGYPTIAN--ISRAELI AGREEMENT OF NOV 11 AND THAT THERE NO PROVISION FOR DISCUSSING THIS MATTER IN ANY OTHER FORUM.

7. GAMASY WHO SHOWED EVIDENT DISAPPOINTMENT WANTED SIILASVUO THEN TO TELL PRESS THAT TALKS HAD BROKEN DOWN. SIILASVUO SAID THAT THIS WAS TOO NEGATIVE. IT WAS AGREED HE WOULD SAY THAT DISCUSSIONS HAD CONTINUED ON POINT B, NO CONCRETE RESULTS HAD BEEN REACHED, NO FIRM DATE HAD BEEN SET FOR THE NEXT MEETING AND THAT HE WOULD REMAIN IN TOUCH WITH BOTH PARTIES.

8. THERE WAS THEN SOME DISCUSSION OF DETAILS OF REMOVAL OF ISRAELI BODIES AND ISRAELI WILLINGNESS TO RECONSIDER THE SUPPLY OF ADDITIONAL ITEMS TO KABRIT AND SUEZ CITY. GAMASY SAID THESE MATTERS CAN BE TAKEN CARE OF BY UNEF, AND THEN POINTED OUT THAT FAILURE TO AGREE ON POINT B OF NOV 11 AGREEMENT COULD HAVE ADVERSE EFFECTS ON A (CEASE-FIRE ITSELF).

9. ACCORDING TO SIILASVUO EGYPTIANS BELIEVE THAT ISRAELI STALLING IN LARGE PART DUE TO ELECTORAL CAMPAIGN, INCLUDING PRESENCE OF GENERAL SHARON WHO IS ALSO LEADING FIGURE IN ANTI-GOVERNMENT LIKUD PARTY, AS COMMANDER OF ISRAELI TROOPS WEST OF SUEZ. EGYPTIANS NOW BELIEVE THEIR FEAR THAT ISRAELI POSITION WOULD HARDEN AS SOON AS POW EXCHANGE
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COMPLETED HAS BEEN CONFIRMED.

10. SIILASVUO EXPRESSED OPINION THAT IT WOULD BE DIFFICULT TO GET EGYPTIANS TO ANOTHER MEETING.

11. ONE BRIGHT SPOT IS THAT FAILURE TO MEET IN NEXT TWO DAYS COULD BE CONSIDERED NATURAL SINCE THEY ARE, RESPECTIVELY, MOSLEM AND JEWISH SABBATHS. UN IS OBVIOUSLY GREATLY CONCERNED ABOUT THIS TURN IN SITUATION. IT IS THOUGHT THAT YARIV'S HIGHLY SOPHISTICATED INTRODUCTION OF UNOFFICIAL AND UNAUTHORIZED PROPOSALS LED GAMASY TO EXPECT MORE THAN THE ISRAELIS HAVE GIVEN AND THAT EGYPTIAN DISILLUSIONMENT IS THEREFORE INTENSIFIED.

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